

**REGULAR MEETING**  
**February 3, 2014**

The Wethersfield Town Council held a meeting on Monday, February 3, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers, 505 Silas Deane Highway, Wethersfield.

Present: Councilors Hemmann, Hurley, Kotkin, Manousos, Martino, Rell, Roberts, Deputy Mayor Barry, and Chairperson Montinieri. Absent: Councilor Manousos

Also present: Mike Turner, Town Engineer, Christine Fortunato, Project Manager High School Renovation, Jeff Bridges, Town Manager, Dolores G. Sassano, Town Clerk.

Deputy Mayor Barry led the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

GENERAL COMMENTS

Gus Colantonio, 16 Morrison Ave. commented on the lack of a stop on Morrison Ave.

Robert Young, 20 Coppermill Rd., commented on the High School renovation being over budget by \$11.9 million dollars. The project committee should have known about the State raising the bar on PCB's; the renovation was too big to begin with; are still waiting for windows at the Webb School 10 years after the construction. We don't finish projects, any extra money that we have goes to special interests.

COUNCIL REPORTS

Councilor Rell commented that the public is invited to a number planning meetings at the library for the interactive maps and kiosks that will be going up in Old Wethersfield. He stated that Peter Gillespie, the Director of Economic and Development, has invited the public to six sessions which are Thursday evenings at 4:30 at the Library on February 13<sup>th</sup>, March 13<sup>th</sup>, April 10<sup>th</sup>, May 8<sup>th</sup> and June 12<sup>th</sup> and he invites all interested parties to come on down and at least look at those plans for that interactive trail.

Councilor Hurley asked if they could hold one of those meetings a little bit later so that people who work later can attend after work. Mr. Bridges responded he was sure they could.

Councilor Martino reported that the Senior Citizens Advisory Commission met and discussed the need for more friendly shopper/friendly visitors for that program where people go in visiting with them and help the elderly by doing their shopping for them. He stated that there is a small one-hour training program before you start, so if anybody is interested in doing it they should contact Social Services. Councilor Martino also stated that AARP has started the tax aid to help people with preparing their taxes for those that have a need and are on moderate income. He

commented that they are also working on energy assistance right now to help our people through the CRT Energy Assistance Program.

Councilor Martino reported that the Capital Improvement Advisory Commission has been meeting and they are very close, probably at this Wednesday's meeting, to finishing up everything for the prioritization of projects for the Council to consider in the upcoming budget.

Councilor Roberts reported that they had the second meeting of the Shared Services Committee on January 30<sup>th</sup> and had full turnout from both the Board and the Council side. They are moving forward in terms of next steps to take with looking at merging IT services. She stated that the Town Manager and the Superintendent will be reporting back to us for our March 26<sup>th</sup> meeting on what their exact plan is, what needs to be done and what areas of IT can be shared most directly for moving forward with that. Councilor Roberts stated that they are quite happy that we are starting and will have a product and some savings in the near future.

Councilor Kotkin reported that he and Councilor Hurley sat in a little on the initial presentation of the Board of Education budget to the Board members. He stated this would be the administration proposal which the increase was a little under 4.8 percent and was just the start of the Board going through it. He explained that the schedule calls for the Board of Education to continue to deliberate on the budget and their goal is to have a final budget presented to the Board on the 25<sup>th</sup> of February which is about 3 weeks before their deadline for getting it to us but they have more workshops coming up. Councilor Kotkin commented that they are taking a look at where their budget should be. He stated that the 4.79% or so was a no new programs budget, no reductions but no new programs either. He commented that we took a look at it and Councilor Hurley and I had a number of questions that we shot over to the Board so that process is beginning.

Councilor Kotkin reported that the Insurance Committee met a couple of weeks ago and they mostly received a presentation from CIRMA (Connecticut Inter-local Risk Management Agency) and generally speaking it was on both the liability policy and worker's compensation. He stated they are having a real good year regarding liability and thinks our premiums over a half of a million dollars and our claims half way through the year were under \$100,000, so really good results so far by the town and we had a pretty good year last year as well. He explained it is good because as you go through a number of years with a good record that will help contain your costs.

Councilor Kotkin commented CIRMA is having some issues, not because of Wethersfield, but because of other towns where there are some high cost claims that are out there and they are running in higher reinsurance costs but we seem to be doing pretty well and on the worker's comp side, we tend to run around 80 claims per year on worker's compensation and fortunately, at least this year, the severity of those claims has not been that great so there has been workshops that CIRMA has run with the town to try to get safe practices embedded in the work culture.

Councilor Kotkin stated he thinks they are looking to do the same over at the Board of Education. About half of the worker's comp claims the town incurs are at the Board of

Education although those tend to be less severe. It's a little counter intuitive to what you think given that our side has Police Officers and the folks that are out on the public works crews.

Councilor Hurley reported that the Parks and Recreation Board is going to start the dredging of the cove soon and it will probably start within a couple of weeks and they will be running 24/7 for about three to four weeks.

Mr. Bridges commented that Mike Turner and Kathy Bagley met with the Army Core last week and have a letter that is going out to all the people around the cove and it does talk about the tentative start date is mid February and will run 24/7 until completed. Mr. Bridges read the letter to the Council which described all the details of the project.

### COUNCIL COMMENTS

Mayor Montinieri commented that the Council retreat was this past Saturday at the Keeney Center and all members of the Council attended a ¾ day retreat .They had a chance to take into account a full comprehensive set of information that was provided by our Town Manager. He covered everything from our current financial status budget, capital improvements, most of our bonding portfolio, our grand list, and our tax success. Then we were able to spend some time taking a look at our goals and objectives as a full Council. Mayor Montinieri explained they did several exercises that allowed for a fair amount of dialogue and overall thinks the Council came away saying that it was a very productive opportunity for us to really take a look at our goals for the town going forward in concert with the information Town Manager Jeff Bridges gave provided. It was a very solid day for us as a full group.

Last Thursday they held their State of the Town at the Keeney Center in the morning and stated that is normally attended by 40 or 50 people. They actually changed the format a bit this year and worked in concert with the Chamber of Commerce and with the Economic Development and Improvement Commission and, of course, our town staff to cosponsor an event that was designed, not only to be our State of the Town but also to address some economic development planning with the assistance of the State. They had some representatives from the State Department of Economic and Community Development. Also they had 127 attendees for the State of the Town which is very robust turnout. There was a lot of commitment on the part of our current businesses in town to participate in the dialogue. It was a very successful day not only in the turnout but the exchange of information provided by all those supporting groups, the Chamber, Jeff Bridges reported on the town and we shared some information from Economic Development and some of their strategies. It was another good event for our town as we move forward.

On the Wethersfield High School renovation: information beginning to be shared with the public about the current state of the project; Building Committee has been keeping us informed on a regular basis and the public has had interest in hearing on how the project is unfolding. He

wants to clarify some information based on some of the public comment this evening. First of all with respect to the project overage, we are obviously working toward understanding the impact that influence the overage from the original project scope and they do include some of the references that the public is making, point on the PCB expansion, the asbestos expansion, several items which we had provisions for in the initial project cost but have obviously gone significantly over. He wants to share for the benefit of the public: the high school footprint and much of the equipment and information even architectural design on a building that is over 60 years old is not accurate in some cases. In fairness to the engineering estimates, as we've looked into the building and start to drill in and open up walls, we are finding quite a bit of history that is very hard to get our arms around. He wanted to clarify a reference to the high school project being too big: and we obviously know the footprint of the high school as it exists today. There are a total of five expansions of the footprint of the high school since its initial construction back in the 50s. There is a request for the State to look at our footprint waiver: the language in the legislative information that is provided for new construction refers to new construction footprints for the municipalities looking to build a new high school. He explained that there are guidelines that have been presented to the municipalities over the last ten years in the event that someone is considering building a new high school and those footprint sizes are designed to maximize efficiency for anybody considering building a new school. Most of the public may remember during the referendum, we did our project as **renovate as new**. That is the only current sizing we can use when we talk about how the standard is being applied. Looking at the cost as it unfolds we can address the fact that our footprint is considerably larger as a result of those expansions. Our approaching the State on a request for waiver reflects that fact and obviously we can't shrink the size of the high school at least not without compromising programs, classroom space and social and gymnastic activities. We are confined to the realities of the school and want to share that as well. It is important to know that all members of our Council have had extensive dialogue over the last few weeks about the most effective way for us to address the concern that has been created by the increased cost. He stated that much of it does reflect the recovery of the economy. We have said that publicly and we obviously have critical data to back that up. It's probably not a terrible surprise that our contractors that are coming in higher than they would have two or three years ago. It's a reality of a recovering economy and municipal work is always more challenging than the private construction. In private construction people change PO's very easily because the structure is generally going to have more resources available to it. It is not going to be confined by some of the municipal bid-making processes. Council is working together with a very capable building committee in addressing and working hard to get that resolved in the next 90 days. We are moving forward, we are on time, and the Town Manager reported at the State of the Town we are actually positively optimistic about the progress that we are making at the high school. We will continue to keep the public informed on that. He just wants to be careful that the information going out is actually accurate in terms of what is being said for the public.

#### TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

Mr. Bridges commented that his one comment tonight was about the dredging.

### TOWN CLERK COMMUNICATIONS

Ms. Sassano reported that the Memorial Day Parade Committee will be meeting on Wednesday, February 5<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 at the Community Center in South 3.

Ms. Sassano reported the town committee reports were filed in her office; there is no need to have a primary for either party because neither party had any candidates other than those already endorsed.

Ms. Sassano reported that the January 21, 2014 meeting was cancelled and we had a special meeting on January 22, 2014. Those minutes are not on the agenda but will be on the next agenda.

### COUNCIL ACTION

#### ORDINANCES, RESOLUTIONS, APPOINTMENTS FOR INTRODUCTION

Councilor Hemmann moved **“TO ACCEPT THE RESIGNATIONS OF ANN BRICKLEY, 143 HIGHCREST ROAD FROM THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE FROM 7-23-13 TO 6-30-15, ELAINE R. ST. ONGE, 39 RANDY LANE FROM THE TOURISM COMMISSION FROM 7-23-13 TO 1-15-14 AND KLAJD KOVACI, 80 VALLEY CREST DRIVE FROM THE YOUTH ADVISORY COMMITTEE FROM 7-23-13 TO 6-30-16,”** seconded by Councilor Rell.

Councilor Montinieri commented that Elaine St. Onge has served the Tourism and Historic District for over 30 years and stated that Elaine has been a long and hard contributor to our community.

All Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 8-0-0.

Deputy Mayor Barry moved **“TO APPOINT SHANELLE SPINELLA, 84 ROUND HILL ROAD TO THE INLAND WETLANDS COMMISSION FROM 2-3-14 TO 6-30-17, MARTHA CONNEELY, 12 FAIRMONT STREET TO THE LIBRARY BOARD FROM 2-3-14 TO 6-30-17, TODD WILLARD, 159 NOTT STREET TO THE YOUTH ADVISORY BOARD FROM 2-3-14 TO 6-30-17”** seconded by Councilor Roberts.

All Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 8-0-0.

### UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

## OTHER BUSINESS

Councilor Roberts moved to **“AUTHORIZE THE TOWN MANAGER TO SIGN THE COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TOWN OF WETHERSFIELD AND LOCAL 1303-40 COUNCIL 4, AFSCME AFL-CIO (PHYSICAL SERVICES UNION) EXPIRING JUNE 30, 2016.”**, seconded by Councilor Martino.

Mr. Bridges explained the 3-year proposed contract between the Town and the Physical Services Union. The effective date would be back in July of 2013. Some of the major provisions in the new agreement are:

- All new hires in the bargaining unit will enter the high deductible health plan that we initiated last year in the police contract.
  - All members will participate in the Health Maintenance Program and if a member does not participate, they will be an extra 2.5% employee cost share for the health insurance.
  - The employee's pension and OPEB contributions increase over the remaining two years of the contract to 1% each,
  - Reduces the number of personal days allowed from 4 to 2 and they can't carry over.
  - Increases what the town pays for safety shoes from \$200 per year to \$350 year per member.
  - Increases the meal allowances for employees during plowing or other emergency operations
  - Increases the cost share on health insurance for the employees,
  - Reduces the worker's compensation salary differential from one year to 9 months.
- Wages: Year 1 – 2.5% increase, retro to July 1, Years 2 and 3 2.75% .

Mr. Bridges commented that there is also some other language changes that is in the agreement. He stated that the union has ratified so this will finalize to the agreement. He stated that there is a detailed one that was set out with all the proposed changes and redlined and he asked if there were any questions.

Councilor Kotkin commented that these guys have done a great job in keeping our streets clean this winter and asked how many members are covered by this agreement. Mr. Bridges responded a little over 40 and it includes trades, mechanics and physical services division and parks.

Mayor Montinieri thanked Jeff and his staff for the work that they have done on this.

All Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 8-0-0.

Councilor Martino moved **“TO AUTHORIZE THE TOWN MANAGER TO SIGN THE EQUIPMENT SHARING AGREEMENT COOPERATIVE AND EQUIPMENT**

**SHARING AGREEMENT: HOLD HARMLESS AGREEMENT WITH THE TOWNS OF NEWINGTON AND BERLIN”,** seconded by Deputy Mayor Barry.

Mr. Bridges explained that the Town of Wethersfield is in a group called the mid-state group which includes Cromwell, Berlin, Rocky Hill, Newington and Wethersfield and we come together to serve certain sharing arrangements. He explained that CROG and the State put out regional service sharing grants a year or so ago in the town to apply, as a group, for a new tree truck. He explained that the town was in a position to buy a new tree truck and we applied for a regional services sharing grant for a tree truck. Mr. Bridges explained that Newington and Wethersfield currently share tree services. We send our tree crew over to Newington a portion of the year to do work over there on their contract with Newington already, so in order to get the grant to help pay for 50% of the cost we are developing this Memorandum of Understanding where our tree crew will take the tree truck and go to Berlin and Newington coordinated through the tree wardens to do the work and then we get a grant for 50% of the truck. He explained that this will be a model going forward because there is other heavy equipment purchases that towns need to make. One town may buy a grader and we will share a grader with them and one town may need to buy a paving box and we will share the paving box under this master agreement so we recommend going forward. He explained that one caveat on the motion is that final approval by the town attorney to sign off on. The rate per hour in order to amortize the cost of the vehicle, we paid \$156,00 for it and the grant covers half so we are into it for half of that. So if you are a member of the group and you participated in getting the grant, you will pay a base rate for the hours that our crews are over there and it will include salaries, amortization, vehicle gas and so forth. If you weren't part of the original agreement where the grant was awarded, then you'll pay a different rate. You'll have to pay into that grant or into that 50% so that will be worked out amongst the towns but we think it's a good model going forward for sharing equipment.

Councilor Kotkin asked if you are in the consortium you are basically reimbursing the town based on a \$88,000 vehicle and if you are another town that wasn't in it it's going to be based on \$156,000 vehicle but the labor is the same regardless, it's like dollar for dollar reimbursement of the labor and the benefits and so forth. Mr. Bridges responded yes, it would have to fit within our own program. He stated that the three tree wardens have talked and so we spent a couple of weeks in Newington and we go over there when they need help and then Berlin we will work with their tree warden to develop a time where we can go over there and do some work, but there will be differential rates if we go to Newington or Cromwell which weren't part of this original agreement it will be a different rate.

Deputy Mayor Barry asked if this was the first piece of equipment under the agreement. Mr. Bridges responded yes.

Mayor Montinieri asked if our staff would be doing the work with respect to the trees. We won't be lending equipment to Newington, we'll be doing it. So the hold harmless is referring to the fact that our insurance while they are doing work outside of town is covered. Mr. Bridges

responded yes. Mr. Bridges commented that may not be the case for say a motor grader or a paving box but a tree truck is a very specialized piece of equipment and we train our employees to use this specialize piece of equipment. We felt using our crew with this vehicle would be better than just handing it off to somebody else and making sure everything was covered.

All Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 8-0-0.

Councilor Kotkin moved **“TO AUTHORIZE THE TOWN MANAGER TO SIGN AN ENGAGEMENT LETTER WITH THE LAW FIRM OF ROME MCGUIGAN FOR A TERM OF TWO YEARS FOR TOWN ATTORNEY SERVICES WITH SERVICES AND PRICING PER THE REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL PROCESS AND RECOMMENDED BY THE BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE”**, seconded by Deputy Mayor Barry.

Councilor Kotkin explained that the Charter requires us to go out every two years for an RFP for a Town Attorney and this has been true ever since the last time the Charter changed. He explained that we put out an RFP back in December and we had five firms that submitted proposals and they were all firms in the area. He stated that one of the proposals was too costly for the town to consider so we ended up interviewing the other four firms. He stated that when we went through the other four firms, we ended up selecting two finalists, which is the incumbent Halloran & Sage and Rome McGuigan which had previously been the town attorney a couple of stints as recently as 5 or 6 years ago. He stated that during the process we entertained the bids and the way the firms bid is that they submit rates for their partners, associates and essentially for their paralegals and honestly the rates I think one from McGuigan was a little lower for partner, Halloran was a little lower for the associates and paralegals and that was not a driving factor at all. He commented that not speaking for everyone on the whole committee, but we took a look at the firms expertise, looked at who had done the work previously and just because the rates are somewhat different we were sensitive to not having partners do work that otherwise could be done by lower cost folks in the firm. We took a look at records of success and both firms had records or success as Town Attorney. We took a look at responsiveness and revaluation that's about to come up so we took a look at records on issues such as the record on tax appeal and the committee voted three to nothing to recommend to the full Council that we go with Rome McGuigan. One thing we should say is that if we do this, we don't pick up all the work and bring it over from one firm to another. If a firm has been heavily involved in a process such as the building committee or the negotiating radio contract then we would have that firm continue so we expect that Halloran and Sage probably would continue to do a fair amount of work for us in the coming years just like when we switched over to Halloran and Sage four years ago Rome McGuigan actually did all the work to successfully close the Wilkus purchase. Both firms are very strong firms, they are local and they have had good representation in this case, we have decided that the edge went to Rome McGuigan.

Councilor Hurley commented that he personally doesn't think that we should switch. He stated that he knows that both of the people are pretty even but thinks that for consistency he doesn't



always agree with going with the lower priced paralegals because we have run into issues in our past of not having things done the best way and he feels that it could be more political patronage more than just saving money and going with a new firm.

Deputy Mayor Barry commented that he was on the committee as well and agrees with Mike that it was a very close call and stated that we all came away with being impressed with the presentations from everyone. Deputy Mayor Barry commented that he believes that Rome edged out Halloran ever so slightly and that on price, they were a little bit cheaper. He explained that they requested breakdowns of who did the work, partner vs. associate, on varying matters of different complexities and thinks history has shown us that both law firms did a good job when they had done the work for us so there was no issue of not getting quality legal work over the past 8 or 10 years with either firm. He explained that it did seem, based on the bills that we reviewed, that Rome McGuigan was more efficient because, when needed, they would assign an associate who was more capable of handling the work rather than having a partner who had a much higher rate do all the work. Deputy Mayor Barry commented that tipped the scale from his perspective. He stated that it was a close call, but clearly we are getting a quality firm and at a good price.

Councilor Hurley commented that he thinks that maybe in the future and this might be a suggestion for the Charter Commission is that when we go out for an RFP maybe the Town Manager and the Town staff, like they do with other contracts, they pick it instead of the council.

Councilor Hemmann thanked Halloran and Sage and stated that over the years we have had some very complex contracts that have been drawn up like the radio contract and some other issues that we have dealt with and they really worked to protect the interest of the town diligently, not that any other attorney would not do that and stated that we had some really tough things come up over the last several years.

Mayor Montinieri commented that he appreciates the work of the subcommittee on this and the contributions by the folks that did all the interviews. He stated that obviously, they are two very capable law firms and since taking office he has had a chance to work closely with the current town attorney on two matters that they did terrific work on and commented that he is happy to see that we will continue to use them on existing matters that they have already begun work on, some of it quite significant. He stated that we will have a relationship with both going forward which is in the best interest of the town as well, so good work on both sides.

All Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 6-2-0. (Councilor Hurley and Councilor Rell voted no).

### BIDS

Councilor Martino moved **“TO AWARD UNLEADED GASOLINE BID TO DIME OIL**

**FOR 2014**, seconded by Deputy Mayor Barry.

Mr. Bridges explained that we bid our gasoline through CRCOG and the bids were open and there were several vendors that bid. He stated that the CRCOG bid includes a differential and the CRCOG bid came out on the 17<sup>th</sup> of December and on the 19<sup>th</sup> when we received the bids, the price had increased .19 cents so on the 17<sup>th</sup> when CRCOG assembled the bid, the price was \$2.71 per gallon. Mr. Bridges explained that when we got the bid results, the NYMEX price which is what the whole thing is based on, was \$2.90 plus a differential for each vendor. So we went back to the vendors and said two days late, we are missing .18 cents and by then it was escalating pretty severely after that so we went back to the vendors and did the best we could. Mr. Bridges explained that we got dime oil at \$2.90 with no differentials and that's it. There is no add on, there is no transport cost it's \$2.90 per gallon which is one penny more than we are paying now and that is what our recommendation is.

All Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 8-0-0.

Deputy Mayor Barry moved **“TO APPROVE A CHANGE ORDER WITH SOUTHERN MIDDLESEX INDUSTRIES, INC., OF \$100,000 FOR ADDITIONAL REMEDIATION WORK ON GYM B OF THE WETHERSFIELD HIGH SCHOOL”**, seconded by Councilor Martino.

Mr. Bridges explained that there was an additional area that was encapsulated in a new exterior wall and a new interior wall that wasn't part of the original construction of the building where we found additional materials that need to be remediated. He stated that the Chairman and Mike are here to answer direct questions but over the February break we intend to remediate that area and put the work out to bid rather than go with the existing contractor on a change order we wanted to bid this work to see if we can get a better price and we did, we got \$100,000 pricing. Mr. Bridges asked Mike and Christine to talk about this.

Ms. Fortunato explained that there were several vendors off of the State bid list who submitted proposals. The two lowest bidders were brought in and a scope review was done with them. She stated that SMI is the company who is working with us right now and we have been very satisfied with the work. She stated that they were able to do the last abatement during the Christmas holiday and we were able to open school on time without any difficulty so our expectation would be the same in this case. Ms. Fortunato stated that it was actually the Staff; Mike who worked closely with O&G to bring forth this recommendation and she asked Mike to explain.

Mr. Turner explained that once the asbestos and PCB materials were uncovered obviously they were in areas that were not previously tested before, but once the O&G staff identified that there could be a potential problem, the area was completely sealed off and our environmental consultants, Fuss & O'Neil, performed air tests to make sure that there was no release into the

rest of the school and there was not and everything was contained. Mr. Turner explained that with those containment costs we were looking at an additional change order for that work as well and thanks to the efforts of Rob Martinotti, our Superintendent out there, he included those in with SMI's bid and was able to negotiate them down to the \$100,000 so that is a complete cost for both the initial response work and for the abatement for over February break.

Mayor Montinieri questioned that there was \$28,000 of work that has already been completed that's included in that \$100,000. Mr. Turner responded, that's correct. Mayor Montinieri commented that so in truth when you are comparing those bids you want to make sure you make a provision for that \$28,000 which we would have to pay them if we did not select them so to make an actual comparison. So it almost looks to be a significant difference between the other four vendors. Mayor Montinieri asked about the testing and commented that there was actually testing done in this area but where this material was found was just outside the boring areas. Mr. Turner responded that's correct. Some of it was felt underlayment underneath the floor. When we got to that end of the room we uncovered some material.

Mayor Montinieri commented that again in reference to some of the public learning about these overages. We did bore test in one of these rooms and we completed those bore tests and did not find this fiber material. So sort of understanding it pragmatically, we've got folks going in who do engineering work, they do bore tests in part of the room and then we get going and we start tearing up the floor and we find this fiber that we didn't see that in those bores. Mayor Montinieri asked if this was in just one section of the room. Mr. Turner responded that's correct. Mayor Montinieri commented there is no explanation for why this one section of the gym has this fiber and one does not, nobody has any backup. Mr. Turner responded that no, there are no record plans of the school construction or previous renovation or such. O&G kind of thought that it might have been an area of the floor that might have been unlevel that needed this material placed but we just honestly don't know.

Councilor Hurley asked if they did a follow up and bore in other areas to make sure they didn't miss other areas. Mr. Turner responded that once the area is placed under containment, all of the demolitions work whether it's PCB or asbestos related or not, if it's within the containment, they can abate it, there are no additional costs, the demo is included in their bids. Councilor Hurley asked if it could possibly be in any other part of the building that we will find in the same situation. Mr. Turner responded that it's likely that we may find something down the road, but what we are doing now is that Fuss & O'Neil and O&G are taking the plans and we are trying to get ahead of where the contractors are going to be working and looking at the level of testing, looking at the material onsite and seeing if additional testing is warranted before they get into those areas. So we are taking a proactive approach in trying to get ahead of this.

Deputy Mayor Barry asked if gym B was behind the main gym. Mr. Turner responded that gym B is west of the main gym. Deputy Mayor Barry asked if that is an area that is being demolished and is that how it is being discovered in this process. Mr. Turner responded yes, that is correct.

Deputy Mayor Barry asked in terms of other demolition, do you anticipate any other areas where we are demolishing areas other than what is being done in this first phase. Mr. Turner responded that throughout the renovation, there are going to be various phases of demolition. SMI's contract is in the range of like \$3.6 million dollars and they've done about \$600,000 worth of work so far so we are not even a quarter of the way there.

Councilor Rell asked if there is an expectation that they would reach the \$3.5 million dollar bid that is out there. Mr. Turner responded the \$3.5 million is their base bid to do all of the demolition work and all of the abatement work that had been identified previously. Councilor Rell asked what happens if we see more and it goes above the \$3.5 million. Ms. Fortunato commented that we would be back for another change order.

~~Mr.~~ Ms. Fortunato commented that practically every area of this building was tested and it would just be our luck where it showed up. The testing was on one side of the room and it appears on the other. She stated that the building is full of surprises.

All Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 8-0-0.

#### ORDINANCES, RESOLUTIONS AND APPOINTMENTS FOR INTRODUCTION:

Mayor Montinieri asked Mr. Bridges to introduce the following ordinance.

Resolution authorizing the Town Manager to sign the agreement entitled "Master Municipal Agreement for Construction Projects" with the Connecticut Department of Transportation.

Mr. Bridges stated that there will be a public hearing on that resolution at the next meeting.

#### MINUTES

Councilor Kotkin moved **"TO APPROVE THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF JANUARY 6, 2014"** seconded by Councilor Martino.

All Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 8-0-0.

#### PUBLIC COMMENTS

Gus Colantonio, 16 Morrison Ave., commented on the dog license registration fee and asked why do we charge that. He commented that it seems that a lot of dogs are going for a walk and stop and go to the bathroom at the corner of Orchard and Morrison Ave. and asked who is responsible to pick up that mess. He stated that it is piling up and smells and wants to know what the procedures are to have it stopped. Mr. Colantonio also commented that during the past few

storms, he noticed that there is an empty lot on the west side of Silas Deane Highway, just south of the Police Station, and commented that the snow from this lot is on the sidewalk even 24 hours after the storm. He stated that it is hard for him to accept that when it is right in front of the Police Station.

Robert Young, 20 Coppermill Rd. commented on the law firm proposals and stated that performance and win results should be something to consider with all the money that we spend. He commented we just continue to buy and buy on fire trucks and a radio system. Now we are short some money for something and now you may have to go out to the public and ask for more money, but we had a lot of money and now it is all gone. Mr. Young commented that new windows at the Webb school would keep energy costs down. He suggested to consider eliminating one of the elementary schools like Glastonbury is doing because the population is going down due to the charter schools. He stated that we need to find ways at reducing the expenditures in this town.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

At 8:10 p.m., Councilor Hurley moved "**TO ADJOURN THE MEETING**" seconded by Deputy Mayor Barry. All Councilors present, including the Chairperson voted AYE. The motion passed 8-0-0.

Dolores G. Sassano  
Town Clerk

Approved by Vote of Council  
February 18, 2014

---

Minutes were revised on page 12, paragraph 3, 1<sup>st</sup> line, changing the word Mr. to Ms.